ART. II.—*Description of an Instrument for the Subcutaneous Introduction of Fluids in Affections of the Nerves.* By F. RYND, Surgeon to the Meath Hospital, &c.

THE canula^a (A) screws on the instrument at (B); and when the button (C), which is connected to the needle (F), and acted on by a spring, is pushed up (as in Fig 2), the small catch (D) retains it in its place. The point of the needle then projects a little beyond the canula (Fig. 2). The fluid to be applied is now to be introduced into the canula through the hole (E), either from a common writing-pen or the spoon-shaped extremity of a silver director; a small puncture through the skin is to be made with a lancet, or the point of the instrument itself is to be pressed through the skin, and on to the depth required; light pressure now made on the handle raises the catch (D), the needle is released, and springs backwards, leaving the canula empty, and allowing the fluid to descend. If the instrument be slowly withdrawn, the parts it passes through, as well as the point to which it has been directed, receive the contained fluid; and still more may be introduced, if deemed expedient.

The subcutaneous introduction of fluids, for the relief of neuralgia, was first practised in this country by me, in the Meath Hospital, in the month of May, 1844. The cases were published in the "Dublin Medical Press" of March 12, 1845. Since then, I have treated very many cases, and used many kinds of fluids and solutions, with variable success. The fluid I have found most beneficial is a solution of morphia in creasote, ten grains of the former to one drachm of the latter; six drops of this solution contain one grain of morphia, and a grain or two, or more, may be introduced in cases of sciatica at one operation, with the very best effects, particularly if they are of long standing; or even in cases of tic in the head and face, with equally beneficial results. The small instrument is for operations on superficial nerves, the larger one for deep-seated nerves; for though it is not necessary to introduce the fluid to the nerve itself to ease pain, still the nearer to the seat of the pain it is conveyed, the more surely relief is given. They were manufactured, and completed entirely to my satisfaction, by the celebrated surgical instrument-maker, Mr. Weiss, of London, and are faithfully represented in the accompanying lithograph, by Foster & Co., of this city.